

Martin O'Malley Governor

Anthony G. Brown Lt. Governor Richard Eberhart Hall Secretary

Matthew J. Power Deputy Secretary

# MARYLAND ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON ARCHAEOLOGY (MACA)

March 13, 2013 Crownsville, MD

### Committee Members in Attendance

Jane Cox Marian Creveling Joe Dent Bill Dudley Tom Forhan Robert Wall

### Staff in Attendance

Dennis Curry
Beth Cole
Charlie Hall
Jan Gowing
Maureen Kavanagh
Patricia Samford (via phone)
Tim Leahy

The Meeting was called to order at 9:41 a.m. by Chairperson Cox.

## Review of the minutes of December 5, 2012

The minutes were reviewed and accepted in a motion made by Tom Forhan and seconded by Bill Dudley; the motion was passed unanimously.

#### **BUSINESS ITEMS**

<u>Underwater Activities Report</u> – T. Nowak—(submitted written report; read at meeting)

"The Board of Public Works approved the MMAP report for 2012 and the field activity proposal for this year, with the understanding that much of the work proposed for 2013 depends on the timely funding of MMAP's Over-the-Target Request for funds to replace equipment that no longer functions. Proposed 2013 field activities include: a project at Point Lookout to relocate and record, if possible, the remains of the sod walls of the earlier versions of the fort colloquially called Fort Lincoln; working with MAHS and IMH as part of their educational programs and surveying activities; and assisting Historic St. Mary's City/University of Southampton with a project in the St. Mary's River provided that they apply for and receive the necessary permits from MDE/USACE. MMAP also is coordinating a short field session near Nottingham with M-NCPPC for the April-May 2013 timeframe.

Comments have not yet been received from NPS regarding the ABPP grant report that was submitted in November 2012. MMAP expected to receive comments by February 1, 2013. NPS informed MMAP on February 28, 2013 that they had not yet reviewed the report because their program is short-staffed. We are considering the previously agreed upon March 31, 2013 deadline as flexible and will discuss a grant completion date with NPS upon receipt of comments.

A meeting was held between MHT, SHA, and the Office of Tourism to discuss the Search for the Scorpion Project and TEP funds. MHT was supportive of the idea to work with the data in hand and to look at War of 1812 sites throughout the State including Scorpion for education and interpretation. Future coordination related to the use of TEP funds for outreach is expected."

Bill Dudley asked if they planned to go forward with the work plan. Beth responded that there are multiple issues on moving forward with the project from a feasibility stage. SHA has said that they do not want to administer the coffer dam and neither does the Navy. The other issue involves having the necessary resources in hand to successfully complete the project. All parties agree that the project is not ready to move forward with continued excavation at this time. With the existing TEP money, MHT, SHA and MD DBED will come up with a proposal on how to redirect the money. Hopefully, the interpretation of the Scorpion will be included in the plan since there has been a lot of valuable information gained through the research and artifacts recovered to date which could be used in an interpretive fashion.

## <u>Terrestrial Activities Report</u> – C. Hall

Charlie reported that he and Joe Dent have met with the Crums, who agreed to open their property to this year's Field Session. The proposal was presented to ASM, where there was a competing proposal for a field session in southern Maryland. The Tyler Bastian field session, which is co-sponsored by MHT and ASM, will be held at Biggs Ford from May 24<sup>th</sup> through June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Dr. Hall also discussed the field registration and testing program. He is working with Baltimore City on two projects. One is at Patterson Park – where the War of 1812 defenses for the City and some of the earth works and other resources associated with the fortifications still survive within the park. Baltimore Heritage has an American Battlefield Protection Program (ABPP) grant proposal and MHT is strongly supporting that. The other project is in Druid Hill Park, where Baltimore Heritage has gotten the attention of a councilman who is interested in the project.

The Archaeology Month theme is the Projectile Point website. The credit for this project goes to Ed Chaney, Dennis Curry and Carol Ebright of SHA for putting together the MAC Lab's diagnostic website on projectile point identification. Carol selected points from collections and the MAC Lab's Caitlyn Shaffer photographed the points to display on the poster. The points displayed on the poster and in the booklet were chosen by searching the Synthesis Report for the points most mentioned. The poster was designed by JPPM's Dennis Kuntz. It has been discussed to make the poster smaller, then selling it at the JPPM gift shop. Dennis Curry reported that it's a consideration of re-packaging the website as an issue of the ASM Journal, which could also be reprinted and sold as a stand-alone.

### MAC Lab Activities Report - P. Samford

We are still waiting to hear if we will be awarded a Defense Legacy grant. Sara completed the full proposal process for the Defense Legacy program, submitting a final draft by the November 8th deadline. If awarded, the project will generate \$117,965 to add Department of Defense digital archaeological records curated at the MAC Lab to The Digital Archaeological Record, a digital repository and web-based access tool founded in Arizona by Digital Antiquity.

Diagnostic Artifacts in Maryland Webpage – The Projectile Point Webpage went live earlier this year and we continue to tweak it and add new photos. Many thanks are due to Carol Ebright, who has given a lot of her time and expertise to get this webpage up and running. Society for Historical Archaeology publication on California archaeology will reproduce four sections of the Post-Colonial Ceramics portion of the website. The Canton porcelain and toy marbles essay and photos were posted on the website in February. Tricia began researching and writing essays on Victorian majolica and bone handled toothbrushes as future entries.

Discovering Archaeology Day – April 20<sup>th</sup> – encourage folks to come and participate.

Gloria S. King Research Fellowship - The Maryland Archaeological Conservation (MAC) Laboratory is pleased to announce they have selected Christopher Shephard as the recipient of the 2013 Gloria S. King Research Fellowship in Archaeology. Mr. Shephard is a PhD student in the Department of Anthropology at the College of William and Mary. He is researching the exchange of copper and shell objects among Algonquian societies of the late Woodland through early Colonial periods and the rise and transformation of chiefly authority across the southern Middle Atlantic. During his fellowship, Mr. Shephard will be studying several archaeological collections curated at the lab to look at questions related to the nature of competitive gift-giving and feasting in the negotiation of power and authority among the indigenous societies of the Tidewater.

Transportation Enhancement Grant - Tricia and Ed wrote a grant application to the Maryland State Highways Transportation Enhancement Program to create a database and website on Phase II and III collections in the Lab.

Public Archaeology/ RITES Trail project – Public archaeology will begin in Mid-May and run through early July.

Trish also reported that the building where the Baltimore City Urban Archaeology collection was stored had a steam pipe burst under the building, causing various problems with the collection. The insurance company has agreed to re-house the collection, but is unsure about allowing for conservation. The MAC Lab has reason to believe that Baltimore is going to offer the collection to the lab. The collection committee will need to decide whether it is feasible.

## Review and Compliance Activities Report - B. Cole

Review and Compliance continues to see a high volume of project reviews, including many Phase I and II archeology reports generated by developers applying for Corps permits, State Highway and Maryland Transit Administrations, and work at the Navy's Patuxent Naval Air Station and Naval Academy. Staff participated in annual coordination meetings and site visits with the Naval Academy and the NPS C&O Canal to discuss project updates, status, and coordination issues. Staff met with FEMA's MD field office to discuss coordination for Hurricane Sandy recovery efforts under FEMA's Programmatic Agreement. The field office includes qualified cultural resource professionals to handle project reviews. MHT continues to coordinate with MTA and other environmental resource agencies regarding the proposed BWI 4<sup>th</sup> track and station improvements, and MTA is striving to avoid impacts to the Higgins site located immediately adjacent to the station and track. Staff attended monthly interagency coordination meetings with the Corps of Engineers/MDE and State Highway Administration to represent MHT interests for the projects covered on the monthly agendas.

MHT, MTA, and FTA officially executed the Programmatic Agreement (PA) for the Baltimore Red Line transit project, one of the Administration's streamlined federal initiatives. The PA includes provisions for completion of Phase I and II archeological investigations along the corridor as access and planning proceeds and ongoing consultation to resolve any potential adverse effects to significant resources. MTA plans to complete Phase II testing of the mid 19<sup>th</sup> c. Ward farmstead in the coming year.

Staff held its 2<sup>nd</sup> successful *Section 106* workshop in December that had 200 pre-registrants. We have seen a definite increase in project submittals and noticeable improvement in the quality of the information provided as a result of attendee's participation in the workshop. Staff gave a *Section 106/Working with the Trust* presentation to the MD Department of General Services Office of Engineering and Construction, which was well attended by 30 project managers, engineers, and inspectors. DGS had many good questions regarding archeology and project planning.

Staff took advantage of several continuing education opportunities by participating in the FWHA Webinar – Planning and Environmental Linkages, ACHP webinar – Archeology and Section 106

Identification and Evaluation Efforts, and taking the complimentary SHPO slot at the ACHP's Advanced Section 106 Seminar.

## Synthesis project – Dennis Curry

The Archeological Synthesis project has completed work on Anne Arundel County and Matt McKnight is now synthesizing data from reports on work done in Annapolis (only Annapolis and Baltimore City remain to be done). Requests for information from outside researchers and MHT library users are increasing markedly, and have included a search for archeological sites with crab remains for Dr. Torbin Rick at the Smithsonian Institution, and data on Maryland projectile point frequencies for Charlie Hall for use in this year's Archeology Month brochure.

In late January, Maureen Kavanagh and Dennis Curry accompanied J. Rodney Little to a meeting with Senator Mac Middleton to discuss a master plan for a heritage trail incorporating the recently found Zekiah Fort in Charles County.

Dennis Curry presented a paper entitled "A Chronicle of Prehistoric Archeology in the Middle Atlantic Region" at the 2013 Middle Atlantic Archeological Conference in Virginia Beach, VA. A written version of this paper was submitted for inclusion in an edited volume, *Foundations of Middle Atlantic Prehistory* now being proposed to potential publishers (AltaMira Press and University of Alabama Press).

Dennis requested MHT Board money for six more months to work on the Synthesis Project, which should allow for a year to finish it. We are also exploring other options for bringing Matt on fulltime. Maureen reported that we also applied for a Transportation Enhancement grant which, in addition to GIS and database updates and enhancement, would include a summary and analysis of the synthesis data to assess geographic and chronological coverage statewide.

## Appropriate Place of Repose Update - Robert Wall, Charlie Hall, and Maureen Kavanagh

Charlie reported that all of the Native American human remains in MHT's care are now in the ground, with two exceptions. The first involves eleven individuals recovered from Western Maryland that were being examined by the Smithsonian's Doug Owsley until mid-December 2012. These remains could not be returned to the earth in Western Maryland due to the onset of winter weather. The other exception is the remains from the Accokeek Creek site, which are culturally identifiable with the Piscataways. The question was asked if Doug Owsley will do a report for the remains he examined. Maureen noted that he is providing the results of all inventory with the exception of the CAT scanning of crania because the data is not easily transferred from the Smithsonian. Secretary Hall will be sending letters to the members of the Working Group, congratulating them on the successful completion of their task. Still to be done is revisions to the regulations regarding the constitution and duties of the Burial Sites and Objects Review Committee. The point of these revisions will be to make representation equal between the Native Americans and archaeologists on that group, although this goal is complex because the committee is to consider remains of any interested descendant communities.

MACA Minutes Page 6

## NPS Historic Preservation Plan Update - T. Leahy

Tim Leahy is working on updating the Maryland State Preservation Plan, a project which was started by Cory Kegerise, but has been dormant for two years since his departure. The Work Plan is compliant with the National Park Service guidelines. It is expected that there will be broad outreach to all interested parties. The plan will address gaps in preservation programs and data, such as underserved themes or communities, and will cover at least a five year scope. The output is intended to be used by the public and any groups involved in the State, putting it in layman's language. The work plan has three major components: research, analysis and writing, and publishing the report. Tim will be doing public forums around the state in May and June. He will be looking for issues and trends that are positive or negative, case studies and themes that are underserved.

## Other Business

None

<u>Selection of next meeting date</u> – Wednesday, June 12, 2013 at 9:30 a.m.

There being no other business, the meeting was adjourned at in a motion made by Jane Cox and seconded by Marian Creveling; the motion was carried unanimously.